

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Jon Hanian 208-334-2100

## GOVERNOR APPOINTS SCHULTZ, SHIGETA TO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## APPLICATIONS STILL BEING ACCEPTED FOR THREE TECHNICAL EXPERTS

(BOISE) – Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter announced the appointments today of **Payette County Commissioner Marc Shigeta** and **Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Director Tom Schultz** to the restructured Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.

The Governor's Office is accepting applications for three other commission openings until June 1.

The Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (OGCC) regulates the exploration, drilling and production of oil and gas resources on private, State and federal land in Idaho. The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) is the administrative arm of the commission.

House Bill 301 as amended was unanimously approved by the Legislature and signed into law, establishing a new OGCC to include the IDL director, three Governor-appointed technical experts and one county commissioner. The new OGCC will be in place on July 1.

Shigeta was selected among the three Payette County commissioners to serve on the OGCC. The new law requires that one OGCC position be filled by a county commissioner from a county where oil and gas is being produced or has been produced within the past ten years. Payette County is the only one to which that description applies.

Shigeta has been a Payette County commissioner since 2002. He is a third-generation resident of Payette County and a self-employed row crop farmer in New Plymouth. Shigeta graduated from New Plymouth High School and the University of Idaho with a bachelor's degree in business and accounting.

Schultz has been IDL director and secretary to the OGCC since 2011. A new division administrator for oil and gas at IDL will take over as OGCC secretary on July 1. Schultz previously worked for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

as administrator of the DNRC Trust Lands Division as well as administrator for the DNRC Water Resources Division. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an intercontinental ballistic missile launch officer. He holds a bachelor's degree in government from the University of Virginia, a master's degree in political science from the University of Wyoming, and a master's degree in forestry from University of Montana.

Applications are still being accepted for three Governor-appointed technical experts on the OGCC. The requirements for all three positions include a college degree in geosciences or engineering and at least ten years of experience in the oil and gas industry. Initially, one appointed member will serve a four-year term, one will serve a three-year term, and one will serve a two-year term. Each position will serve a four-year term thereafter.

Applications for appointment are available online here: https://gov.idaho.gov/admin/appointment.html

Applications may be mailed to the Governor's Office or emailed to <a href="mailto:Ann.Beebe@gov.idaho.gov">Ann.Beebe@gov.idaho.gov</a>. Applications sent via e-mail must be received by the Governor's Office by June 1, 2017, or postmarked by June 1, 2017 if sent by U.S. mail. Questions about the commission positions may be directed to IDL.

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